

The Missing Ingredient

Ephesians 6:1-3 Sunday AM, February 4, 2024

Prelude – Scripture: Ephesians 6:1-3 (NASB85) Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. 2 HONOR YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER (which is the first commandment with a promise), 3 SO THAT IT MAY BE WELL WITH YOU, AND THAT YOU MAY LIVE LONG ON THE EARTH.

Walk worthy of the calling, imitate God as beloved children, live **10 trying to learn what is pleasing to the Lord.** To see God’s holiness—His complete and righteous otherness, is to recognize the weight of these commands demanding a fixed gaze and careful attention. Hence our passage reminds us, “**be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, 16 making the most of your time, because the days are evil. 17 So then do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.**” We saw all this takes place NOT from you and your resources, but from the Holy Spirit. “**Be filled with the Spirit.**” Controlled, the same way too much alcohol controls someone. Those controlled by the Holy Spirit not only willingly seek God’s heart instead of following their own, but sing from a heart of gratitude both alone and with the saints, desiring to affirm and spread the glories of all God has done for us. This life of willing submission to such a gracious and holy God leads to an attitude of submission, first within the household of faith. **21 and be subject to one another in the fear of Christ.** This reminds us that our great salvation reconciling us to God is not merely something we receive, it’s about Him and His plans accomplished through His redeemed working together under Christ. This Headship of Christ carries to our marriages, which are not ours, but His. **22 Wives, be subject to your own husbands, as to the Lord. Last week, Husbands, love your wives just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her. ALL for a purpose. 23 For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, He Himself being the Savior of the body.** Christ, the Head gave Himself to His people, the church **26 so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, 27 that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless.** Do these words mean anything to you? If you feel the tension, the lack of oneness in your marriage—if you feel the weight of your inability to live in line with these commands, look to your relationship with Christ—THAT is what is at stake, AND that is where your hope comes. We celebrate the Lord’s Supper today so sing and praise God for all promised and gained from Christ’s work for all those who trust Him. (add 2nd verse)

***Hymn #203/Powerpoint: And Can It Be**

Today, we focus on children. **1 Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. 2 HONOR YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER** Children, have you heard this verse before? Does this seem hard? Do you obey your parents? Honor? Honor is far more than just doing what they say, it’s treating them like a treasure—studying them to learn who they are and what they love. Do you WANT to obey/honor them? Our verse shows us good that comes from obeying/honoring—**3 SO THAT IT MAY BE WELL WITH YOU, AND THAT YOU MAY LIVE LONG ON THE EARTH.** Your well-being in the future is tied to your attitude toward your parents. But there is more—don’t just look at your parents, look farther. Obey **in the Lord!** Are you in the Lord? I believe each parent here wants you to be born again and know God as YOUR father. He is a good, good father. Most of us have parents who desire and try to love us. God DOES love His own.

***Hymn (Powerpoint): My Savior’s Love** (What Tongue Could Tell) ***Pastoral Prayer: Pastor Jahn** **Choir: Calvary’s Love**

Scripture: Deuteronomy 4:1–14, 32-40 (NASB95) 1 “Now, O Israel, listen to the statutes and the judgments which I am teaching you to perform, so that you may live and go in and take possession of the land which the LORD, the God of your fathers, is giving you. 2 “You shall not add to the word which I am commanding you, nor take away from it, that you may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you. 3 “Your eyes have seen what the LORD has done in the case of Baal-peor, for all the men who followed Baal-peor, the LORD your God has destroyed them from among you. 4 “But you who held fast to the LORD your God are alive today, every one of you. 5 “See, I have taught you statutes and judgments just as the LORD my God commanded me, that you should do thus in the land where you are entering to possess it. 6 “So keep and do them, for that is your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples who will hear all these statutes and say, ‘Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.’ 7 “For what great nation is there that has a god so near to it as is the LORD our God whenever we call on Him? 8 “Or what great nation is there that has statutes and judgments as righteous as this whole law which I am setting before you today? 9 “Only give heed to yourself and keep your soul diligently, so that you do not forget the things which your eyes have seen and they do not depart from your heart all the days of your life; but make them known to your sons and your grandsons. 10 “Remember the day you stood before the LORD your God at Horeb, when the LORD said to me, ‘Assemble the people to Me, that I may let them hear My words so they may learn to fear Me all the days they live on the earth, and that they may teach their children.’ 11 “You came near and stood at the foot of the mountain, and the mountain burned with fire to the very heart of the heavens: darkness, cloud and thick gloom. 12 “Then the LORD spoke to you from the midst of the fire; you heard the sound of words, but you saw no form—only a voice. 13 “So He declared to you His covenant which He commanded you to perform, that is, the Ten Commandments; and He wrote them on two tablets of stone. 14 “The LORD commanded me at that time to teach you statutes and judgments, that you might perform them in the land where you are going over to possess it. 32 “Indeed, ask now concerning the former days which were before you, since the day that God created man on the earth, and inquire from one end of the heavens to the other. Has anything been done like this great thing, or has anything been heard like it? 33 “Has any people heard the voice of God speaking from the midst of the fire, as you have heard it, and survived? 34 “Or has a god tried to go to take for himself a nation from within another nation by trials, by signs and wonders and by war and by a mighty hand and by an outstretched arm and by great terrors, as the LORD your God did for you in Egypt before your eyes? 35 “To you it was shown that you might know that the LORD, He is God; there is no other besides Him. 36 “Out of the heavens He let you hear His voice to discipline you; and on earth He let you see His great fire, and you heard His words from the midst of the fire. 37 “Because He loved your fathers, therefore He chose their descendants after them. And He personally brought you from Egypt by His great power, 38 driving out from before you nations greater and mightier than you, to bring you in and to give you their land for an inheritance, as it is today. 39 “Know therefore today, and take it to your heart, that the LORD, He is God in heaven above and on the earth below; there is no other. 40 “So you shall keep His statutes and His commandments which I am giving you today, that it may go well with you and with your children after you, and that you may live long on the land which the LORD your God is giving you for all time.”

Offering: *Doxology:

Did you hear the call to obey that it may go well with you in Deuteronomy? It sounds like children aren’t the only ones called to obey—not the only ones told to look beyond what they see to trust God and honor His Word. They should have had no problem doing this as God showed His power and love to them so many times, but it so often wasn’t enough. Professing Christian, we must remind each other of God’s character, works, and goodness to us so we can represent Him in a messy world where it’s not always so clear what honoring Him looks like. Follow Christ your head—look to Him, study Him, check your study with the other saints—do all this and you will remember that Christ your Head also obeyed when on earth—He obeyed to the point of death, even death on a cross. Think on the gravity of all this as Pastor Jahn preaches and we come to the table.

***Hymn (Powerpoint): Your Will Be Done**

Message: The Missing Ingredient Eph. 6:1-3 ***Hymn #186: The Old Rugged Cross** **The Lord’s Table**

Do you have trouble obeying, children, children of God? Find hope in the sufficient work of Christ to make you righteous and bring you to God. This work, rightly understood will give you hope to confess your daily sin and then get up and obey, not only your parents and all other authorities established by God, but supremely to obey and honor God Himself. Sing the Gospel.

***Hymn (Powerpoint): Yes, I Know** ***Prayer**